

Fall Discoveries
By Seth Beres

Each year, thousands of young urban conservationists connect with nature through experiential learning activities at Two Ponds. Students and teachers go on scavenger hunts and trail hikes as well as listen to the birdsongs and watch the seasons unfold. Our free environmental education programs continue to reach dozens of public and private schools of all age classes throughout the Denver metro area to universal acclaim. For more information, contact Seth Beres @ # (303) 289-0867 or Seth_Beres@fws.gov



Follow us on our new and improved social media sites:



Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/TwoPondsNWR>



Flickr- <https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwsmtnp/sets/72157637946236685/>

Website - http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Two_Ponds/

Ripples on the Pond

Newsletter of the Two Ponds Preservation Foundation

December 2014



Reflections
from the
Ponds
By Daryl
Christensen

Greetings Supporters and Members,

As fall transitions to winter, there are still interesting seasonal activities occurring at the Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge. Refuge Manager, Seth Beres details the recent happenings and upcoming events elsewhere in this issue.

The Foundation is currently pursuing the means for expanding our community outreach initiatives. We currently have two Grant proposals that are intended to help us project the Two Ponds' story in to our community. These outreach efforts

will include expanded use of printed materials and video presentations showcasing the natural wonders of the Refuge and how we are connected to the environment in our daily lives.

The Foundation's long-term goal is to support the construction of the "Schoolhouse at Two Ponds". This will present the Refuge with an environmental learning center offering educational activities, providing on-site teaching resources, and featuring interactive displays.

The successful completion of the "Schoolhouse at Two Ponds" campaign depends on the participation and generosity of our members and friends. There is an opportunity for you to contribute to the creation of this legacy by participating in Colorado Gives Day on December 9th. All contributions to the Two Ponds Preservation Foundation will receive an additional proportionate share of your contribution between now and December 9th,

thanks to the generosity of the Community First Foundation and First Bank. If you chose to make a donation, it is important that you press the dark green "CO GIVES DAY" button. This will assure that your generosity will be supplemented by the Community First Foundation for donations received between now and Colorado Gives Day on December 9th.

Please go to our website at www.twoponds.org where you can learn more about our Foundation's mission, the natural wonders of the Refuge, and how you can join our growing community of dedicated members. Thank you in advance for any way you may choose to share, whether it be through your donation to the Foundation or as a valued volunteer at the Refuge.

Daryl Christensen
President, Two Ponds Preservation Foundation.
303 278 4747 x125

Memberships Make Great Gifts!



Kipling	Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge	Club Crest	N ↓
80th	★		

Return Service Requested

Arvada, Colorado 80006-0748
P.O. Box 740748

Two Ponds Preservation Foundation

New Wings
By Seth Beres

The 2015 Junior Duck Stamp Program has officially begun! This contest engages K-12 students in an integrated arts and science curriculum, culminating in a design challenge to create a North American waterfowl art piece for submission to their state contest. All entries must be postmarked by March 15, 2015. All participants throughout the state receive recognition and the top 100 entries in every state are awarded a host of fine prizes at a ceremony in May. The Best of Show winners from all 50 states and territories advance to the national contest where one piece is selected to be printed as that year's Junior Duck Stamp – available for purchase at the post office for \$5. This Junior Duck Stamp is both a collector's item among philatelists and is a tool that generates funding for conservation education across the country. This is a wonderful environmental and educational program to be involved with! For more information, please contact Seth Beres # (303) 289-0867 or <http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck/>



Refuge: Visit Us Soon! http://twoponds.fws.gov Phone (303) 289-0867	Foundation: Keep In Touch! https://twoponds.org Phone (720) 306-1992	Refuge Hours: West side: Open year round, dawn to dusk East side: May – Sept. Tue – F: 8am-4pm; Sat. 8am-7pm; Sun.-Mon. CLOSED
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PRESERVATION
FOUNDATION**

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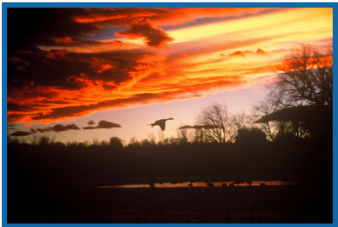


**Scenic Beauty
By Seth Beres**

Since its inception, Two Ponds has provided a great deal of wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities, including nature photography. For those still unaware, the Refuge has recently developed a new Flickr page devoted toward sharing the natural beauty of this urban setting. Visitors frequenting Two Ponds are welcome to share any and all photos they take with Refuge Manager @ Seth_Beres@fws.gov This oasis is right in our own backyards and provides a reprieve from the hustle and bustle of the city. The following are seasonal examples submitted by long-time devoted FWS volunteer Bini Abbott. For more go to:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwsmtnp/sets/72157637946236685/>

TWO PONDS TUESDAY
(volunteer day at the Refuge)
Every Second Tuesday of Every Month
at 8:00 a.m.



**Night Duty
By David Jamiel**

On Tuesday, October 28th, nine Boy Scouts and five adults from troops affiliated with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Standley Lake Stake, representing the Standley Lake Ward and 5th and 6th Wards, descended upon Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge for a service project. They arrived with paint brushes, rollers, and ladders in hand to paint the Refuge entry sign and kiosk at the main entrance on 80th Avenue. Not to be deterred in their task by the setting sun, they also brought with them a gas generator, flood lights and flash lights to illuminate the kiosk once it got dark. In addition, vehicles belonging to the leaders were parked so as to light up the Refuge entry sign. Considering the cold and the dark of night, the boys worked hard to paint the beams of the roof and the back side of the kiosk. Within an hour and a half they completed the Refuge sign and 99% of the kiosk until they ran out of paint. After a quick cleanup, they collected their brushes and supplies, had a few donuts and juice and departed the Refuge better than they had found it. Thank you Boy Scouts!



Colorado Gives Day 2014 is Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2014. Please help raise millions for Colorado nonprofits. You can donate at ColoradoGives.org anytime. Please help strengthen the state's nonprofits through online giving. You can donate to Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge System or other local charities.

Support the "Schoolhouse at Two Ponds" campaign on Colorado Gives Day!

Colorado's largest one-day online giving event, presented by Community First Foundation and 1stBank, is coming up and we need your support.

On Tuesday, December 9, 2014, thousands of donors will come together to support Colorado nonprofits like ours. Last year, a record-breaking \$20.9 million was distributed to Colorado nonprofits. This year our goal is \$5,000

**The Spirit of Giving
By Kevan Fish**

True giving comes from the same place inside you as your deepest happiness, and is a personal act of kindness. The act of giving doesn't have to be limited to an exchange of presents at Christmas time or Birthdays. You can treat every person you come into contact with as someone who you can give a gift to.

When people give to charities, it activates regions of the brain associated with pleasure, social connection, and trust. When you give, you're more likely to get back. These exchanges promote a sense of trust and cooperation that strengthens our ties to others and this "fosters a heightened sense of interdependence and cooperation in your social community."

The Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge in Arvada sets aside the 2nd Tuesday of every month for its maintenance and habitat improvement projects. Anyone interested in volunteering their time and skills are always welcome to join us. For more details or information, please call Seth Beres at (303)289-0867.

About Colorado Gives Day

Colorado Gives Day is powered by ColoradoGives.org, a year-round website featuring nearly 1,500 nonprofits. ColoradoGives.org encourages charitable giving by providing comprehensive, objective and up-to-date information about Colorado nonprofits and an easy way to support them online.

\$1 Million Incentive Fund

Thanks to Community First Foundation and First Bank, Colorado Gives Day features a \$1 Million Incentive Fund, one of the largest gives-day incentive funds in the country. Every nonprofit receiving a donation on Colorado Gives Day receives a portion of the Incentive Fund, which increases the value of every dollar that is donated.

Check out our donation page on ColoradoGives.org <https://www.coloradogives.org/index.php?section=organizations&action=newDonation&fwID=36167>.

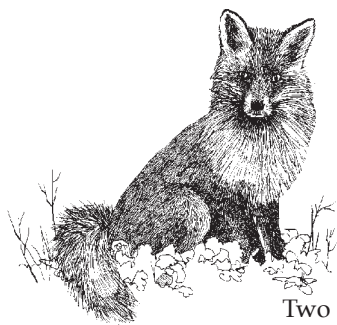
Your support helps us continue to raise funds for the "Schoolhouse at Two Ponds". Beginning November 1st you can make a donation on the web site and schedule it for Colorado Gives Day. If you chose to make a donation, it is important that you press the dark green "CO GIVES DAY" button. This is the only way to assure that your donation will be supplemented by the Community First Foundation Incentive Fund for donations received between now and Colorado Gives Day on December 9th.

Check the activities calendar on the Two Ponds Preservation Foundation website (twoponds.org) for information about our Colorado Gives Day party. Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SchoolhouseAtTwoPonds>.

I WOULD LOVE TO JOIN THE TWO PONDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION!

The Foundation is a totally volunteer organization and 100 percent of your donation is used for the Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge. The Foundation receives and administers gifts for environmental education, preservation of wetlands and the development of the Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge.

Please make checks payable to Two Ponds Preservation Foundation. Your gift is tax deductible.



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|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Turtle | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Black-Crowned Night Heron – engraved brick |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Beaver | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Swainson's Hawk – engraved flagstone slab |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Red Fox | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 Golden Eagle – engraved park bench |

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____

Mail your tax deductible contribution to:
Two Ponds Preservation Foundation, P.O. Box 740748, Arvada, CO 80006-0748
Or contribute online through <https://goo.gl/qpw3>